Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: A copy each of the Budget Estimates of the (1) Cochin Port Fund, (2) Cochin Landing and Shipping Fund and (3) Cochin Pilotage Fund for 1937-38 is placed on the Council Table.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Has our Government any hand in the preparation of this budget ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: Yes. The Committee scrutinises the budget and gives advice if it is found necessary.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Which Committee ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: The Harbour Advisory Committee.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: My question is, has our Government any hand in the preparation of the budget ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: Yes. There are two representatives of our Government on the Committee.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: Who are those representatives ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: The Secretary to Government and the Advocate-General.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: May I know whether copies of the various documents relating to this be made available to at least some of the members ?

Mr. President: Copies of the various statements have been placed on the Council Table.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: We want copies to go through them casually.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: I shall get as many copies as possible and make them available to the hon'ble members.

Mr. President: Questions Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 8 relate to the same subject more or less and I think they should be answered together. I shall ask the Government member concerned to read the answers of all these questions together and supplementary questions should be then put together.

AGREEMENT WITH S. I. R. Co.—SUPPLY OF COPIES.

5. Mr. M. K. Devassy: Will the Government be pleased:

(*a*) to supply the members of the Legislative Council, a copy each, of the agreement of the Cochin Government with the South Indian Railway Company ;

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(*b*) if the answer is in the negative, will the Government be pleased to place a copy of the said agreement on the table?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: (*a*) and (*b*) A copy of the agreement is placed on the Council-table.

6. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the contract relating to the management of the State Railway by the South Indian Railway Company?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: Vide answer to question No. 5.

7. **Mr. K. R. Viswambharan:** Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the terms of agreement which has been entered into between the Government of Cochin and the South Indian Railway Co., Ltd., regarding the Ernakulam-Shoranur Railway line;

(*b*) when was this agreement made?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: (*a*) and (*b*) Vide answer to question No. 5.

8. **Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty:** Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether there is at present any agreement between the Cochin Government and the South Indian Railway Co., for the purpose of the Shoranur-Ernakulam line;

(2) when was the agreement entered into;

(3) will the Government be pleased to supply a copy of the agreement to each member?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: (1), (2) and (3) Vide answer to question No. 5.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar: What is the duration of the present contract? Here it is stated int he agreement that "This agreement is to remain in force until the termination of the present contract dated 24th November 1890 between the Secretary of State and the Government." I want to know when this contract will expire, i. e., the contract between the Imperial Government and the South Indian Railway Co.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: As to the date at which it will expire, I want notice.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: In 1890, a contract was entered into. May I know whether any other fresh contract was entered into after the expiry of that period?

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Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: I want notice.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: What kind of inspection which the Government Examiner of Railway Accounts does with regard to accounts maintained by the S. I. R.? It is stated in the agreement that the accounts have to be maintained by the South Indian Railway Co. and it is open for inspection to the Government Examiner of Railway Accounts. What is the nature of the inspection ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: He makes a close scrutiny of the various items and sees whether the accounts have been properly maintained, whether the debits are properly accounted for and the credits duly collected, etc.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: Suppose there is any difference of opinion, i. e., certain items which could not have been brought into account are entered, what is the kind of control that we can exercise ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: In all matters where there is such difference of opinion, the matter is placed before the Railway Board, i. e., the Government of India authorities, who give their opinion in the matter.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: Has there been any such instance ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: There have been many.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: Who is the Government examiner ?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: He is the Government of India's nominee.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: Am I to take it now that there is nobody appointed by the Government of Cochin to look into the accounts ? I mean by it that the Government of Cochin has not the right for inspecting the account books maintained by the S. I. R.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: I do not understand the hon'ble member.

Mr. President: I would suggest to the hon'ble members that this is the first occasion that the railway has been brought under the purview of the Council and that we are having questions on Railway. The copy of the agreement has been now placed on the table. I would suggest to hon'ble members who are interested in this subject to first read the agreement, because there you will find answers to most of these questions and later on take up this subject again for discussion. That will be useful:

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni: Thank you, Sir, for the valuable suggestion.

Mr. V. K. Krishnankutty: I request that each member be supplied with a copy of the agreement.

Mr. President: I do not think it is possible. But, we shall arrange to place a copy of the agreement in the library of this Council.

IRINJALAKKUDA MUNICIPALITY—PROVISIONS OF TRANSFER OF PROPERTY ACT—EXTENSION OF

9. Mr. P. Govinda Menon: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether the provisions of section 59 (*f*) of the Cochin Transfer of Property Act enabling the creation of a mortgage over immovable property by deposit of title deeds, have been extended to the Municipal area of Irinjalakkuda;

(2) whether there is any other municipal area in the State where such provision is not in force?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: (1) No.

(2) No.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon: Have there been prayers, Sir, for the extension of this provision to the Irinjalakkuda Municipal area?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: Yes.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon: What has been the Government orders on those prayers?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: Disallowing the request.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon Why was the request disallowed?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: So far as the extension of creating mortgages by deposit of title deeds is concerned, it is allowed only in urban areas of very great commercial importance. Government did not think that Irinjalakkuda has come up to that standard to allow the request and so it was refused.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon: What is the minimum population or standard required by the Government before this section is extended to the area?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar: It does not depend upon population. But it depends upon the commercial importance of any particular Municipality.

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